

PTO/SB/21 (09

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Heather L. Adamson

Typed or printed name

Date

05/24/2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of:

DUBIN et al.

Application No.: 10/748,359 PADEMAN

Filed: December 30, 2003

For: DAMASCENE INTERCONNECT

STRUCTURES

Examiner: Tuan N. Quach

Art Unit: 2826

Confirmation No.: 7770

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Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Dear Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed February 25, 2005 (hereinafter "Office Action"). In this Office Action, claims 1-24 were pending. Claims 9-15 and 17-20 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 16 has been amended and withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-8 and 21-24 were rejected. Claims 2-8 and 22-24 have been amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the amendments and remarks to follow.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.